

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04400 281139Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-05 /064 W

-----090971 281148Z /44

O R 281118Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8594

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SF RH

SUBJ: VORSTER AND SMITH REFER TO RUMORS

1. AFTER THEIR MEETING ON AUGUST 27, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND IAN SMITH SAID IN A BRIEF JOINT STATEMENT THAT "MANY RUMORS ARE CURRENTLY IN CIRCULATION. IT WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE TO DISCUSS THESE RUMORS IN VIEW OF THE COMING VISIT OF DR. OWEN AND HIS PARTY."

2. MEANWHILE, SA PRESS, AUGUST 27-28, CARRIED CONFLICTING REPORTS ALL FROM LUSAKA. ONE ARTICLE ON AUGUST 27 REPORTED THAT NYERERE HAD ACCEPTED THE NEW SETTLEMENT PACKAGE AFTER CHANGES WERE MADE FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT THE OTHER FRONT LINE STATES ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO APPROVE THE PACKAGE, WHICH "ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE MOST DELICATE ISSUE OF THE FUTURE OF RHODESIAN SECURITY

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FORCES AND OF THE GUERRILLA FORCES." AN AUGUST 28 ARTICLE, HOWEVER, QUOTES NYERERE AS SAYING THAT UNLESS THE RHODESIAN ARMY WAS DISMANTLED, THE GUERRILLA WAR WOULD GO ON, AND CITES WESTERN DIPLOMATS AS INTERPRETING THIS COMMENT AS IMPLYING REJECTION OF THE NEW PLAN. ANOTHER AUGUST 28 REPORT QUOTES AN OFFICIAL CLOSE TO KAUNDA AS SAYING THAT THE

US-UK PROPOSALS DO NOT DEMAND DISBANDMENT OF THE RHODESIAN ARMY. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, THE PLAN REQUIRED DISBANDMENT ONLY OF TWO COMMANDO UNITS AND TRANSFERAL OF ALLEGIANCE BY THE RHODESIAN ARMY TO A BRITISH ADMINISTRATOR.

3. IN FRONT PAGE SUNDAY TIMES ARTICLE (AUGUST 28) FLEUR DE VILLIERS REPORTS DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS IN PRETORIA AS SAYING THAT SINCE SMITH HAS ALREADY REJECTED KEY PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN LEAKED TO THE PRESS, ONLY VORSTER CAN NOW RESCUE THE PEACE BID. A KEY POINT, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, IS THE POSSIBILITY OF SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD SMITH REJECT THE PLAN.
BOWDLER

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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